



United States Department
of Agriculture

National Agricultural
Statistics Service

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Washington Crop Weather

Released: September 10, 2007
Week Ending: September 9, 2007
CWP WA-CW3707

Niagara Grapes and Hop Harvest Begins

Field Crops

Days suitable for fieldwork were 6.8. Fieldwork was in progress throughout the state. Whitman County has not yet begun serious planting. Farmers were doing fall tillage, and other counties reported planting of winter wheat had begun. Adequate soil moisture conditions were a major concern for sprouting the new crop. The fourth cutting of alfalfa was proceeding nicely. Sweet corn was being harvested throughout the state. Christmas tree growers continued to report aphid infestation in Noble fir.

Fruits and Vegetables

In the upper Yakima Valley, warm days and cool nights were received, but there were no reports of frost. Apple harvest continued with growers harvesting Galas and growers in the lower Valley harvesting Golden Delicious, Fuji and Honeycrisp apples. Multiple varieties of peaches, nectarines, plums, and prunes were being harvested. Harvest of Niagara grapes was underway. Cranberry growers continued weed and insect control efforts. Greenhouse tomato growers reported excellent yields and rapid fruit ripening due to warm temperatures. Spinach seed harvest was nearly complete. Growers expected lower yields due to rain before the harvest. Snohomish County reported green beans, carrots, beets and other seed crops were being harvested.

Livestock and Shellfish

Range and pasture conditions were 6% very poor, 23% poor, 16% fair, 54% good and 1% excellent. Cull cows and feeder calves continued moving to market. Range conditions were very dry. On the west side, where available, producers were moving to fall pastures. On the east side, producers might pull cattle off the range early or wean calves earlier than usual. In Pacific County, shellfish growers completed a limited harvest of triploid oysters.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork

Week	Days
This Week	6.8
Last Week	6.8

Moisture and Supply

Item	Percent			
	VS	SH	AD	S
Topsoil	18	44	38	0
Topsoil 5 Yr Avg	25	36	37	2
Subsoil	25	39	36	0
Subsoil 5 Yr Avg	15	34	51	0
Irrigation Water	4	5	91	0
Irrigation Water 5 Yr Avg	4	8	88	0
Hay & Roughage	6	25	69	0

VS=Very Short SH=Short AD=Adequate S=Surplus

Crop Progress

Crop/Activity	Percent Completed			
	This Week	Last Week	2006	5 Yr. Avg.
Spring Wheat Harvested	99	96	98	99
Winter Wheat Planted	39	15	25	31
Winter Wheat Harvested	100	99	100	99
Barley Harvested	100	95	98	99
Potatoes Harvested	52	47	59	54
Corn Dough	75	48	77	83
Corn Silked	96	93	100	100
Corn Dented	55	39	54	58
Corn Mature	30	12	29	30
Corn Silage Harvested	19	18	25	19
Dry Edible Beans Harvested	58	33	47	37
Dry Peas Harvested	100	99	100	99
Alfalfa Hay 3 rd Cutting	95	78	93	94
Alfalfa Hay 4 th Cutting	19	1	NA*	NA*

NA=Not applicable. * No historical data available.

Crop Condition*

Crop	% Acreage				
	VP	P	F	G	EX
Potatoes	0	0	6	92	2
Corn	0	0	9	77	14
Dry Edible Beans	0	3	21	67	9

VP=Very Poor P=Poor F=Fair G=Good EX=Excellent

* Crop conditions are a measurement of the growing conditions and are not indicative of the quality of the crop produced.

COUNTY COMMENTS

Western

Clallam/Jefferson: A few rain showers were received during the week, but the weather was mostly sunny with some clouds and temperatures in the 60s and lows in the 40s.

Clark: Fall crops were coming into season; including apples, pears and late peaches. Pumpkin producers were getting ready for October open houses.

Grays Harbor: Sweet corn growers took advantage of warm sunny days to begin mowing fields to remove the top 20 inches of growth. The tops were removed to prevent loading from fall storms. Cereal grain producers were busy baling straw in harvested fields. Livestock producers continued making both conventional hay and haylage. U-Pick vegetable farms were doing a booming business harvesting warm season vegetables. Greenhouse tomato growers reported terrific yields and rapid fruit ripening due to the warm temperatures. Christmas tree growers continued to report aphid infestations in Noble fir. Home gardeners began harvesting a very sparse crop of tree fruit.

Grays Harbor/Lewis/Pacific: Beautiful fall weather during the week was perfect for grain harvest and getting late hay in. The weather which was warmer than normal helped bring corn to maturity.

Mason: Mild temperatures were the theme for the week, although there was a fantastic thunderstorm overnight on Labor Day. Temperatures were mostly in the 70s but started to heat up over the weekend. The added September warmth was much needed for the last of the summer crops. Outside planted tomatoes were beginning to ripen. The later varieties of sweet corn were being harvested. Cucumbers and green beans were plentiful. Pastured poultry were put out on grass, and turkeys were being butchered and frozen for the fall. Pastures continued to look unseasonably green, and growers were pleased.

Mason (2nd Report): Rain of approximately 0.7 of an inch was received during the week. Most of the rain was received during a 20 minute time period on Sunday evening, September 9. Producers experienced an invasion of aphids, which was probably weather-related, that hit the fruit and deciduous trees during the past two weeks. Harvesting of apples was mostly finished, so producers were allowing hornets to feast on the aphids rather than spraying. The weather was unusually cool and wet this summer which has kept pastures in great shape. Elma farmers made their fourth cutting of orchard grass for winter forage. There has been an abundance of dry forage this summer.

Pacific: Warm late season conditions allowed growers to complete a variety of field activities. Cranberry growers continued weed and insect control efforts, along with

irrigation. This year's crop should provide average yields but was about ten days later than normal in maturity. Shellfish growers completed limited harvest of triploid oysters. Pasture conditions remained good with livestock on summer forage. Raspberry growers continued pruning and weed control activities.

Pierce/S. King: Crop conditions remained good for the South Puget Sound area. There were no reports of any unusual situations and no reports of crop damage due to a weather event.

Skagit: Spinach seed harvest was complete. Yields were lower due to rain received before harvest.

Skagit/San Juan/Island: Weather has been normal for this time of the year with mostly sunny and some morning cloud cover. Nights were cooler. Planting of fall seeded crops and harvesting of potatoes continued without interruption.

Snohomish/N. King: Scattered light showers were received early in the week. Pastures were still growing okay, and summer vegetable harvest continued. Manure spreading continued. Early apple harvest was underway with later varieties ripening up. Some varieties were badly cracked due to ill-timed summer showers. The pumpkin crop was growing well and coloring up nicely.

Snohomish/N. King (2nd Report): Rain showers were received, but the weather was mostly sunny with highs in the 70s and lows in the 50s. Corn was harvested along with green beans, carrots, beets, and other seed crops.

Thurston: The rural landscape continued to transition into a tapestry of fall colors as Oregon ash, big leaf maples, and native cottonwoods ended another cycle of growth. Ag producers took full advantage of warm, sunny days to complete a myriad of fall chores. Cereal grain producers were finishing up combining and baling straw. Livestock producers were making premium hay due to ideal harvest conditions. Turfgrass growers continued mowing, fertilizing, and harvesting. Christmas tree growers continued shearing Douglas fir and top working Noble fir. Home gardeners complained about being overwhelmed with zucchinis, tomatoes, and cucumbers.

Whatcom: The week began with light rain. Daytime temperatures were higher than the previous week. There were still some fields of blueberries being harvested. Potato harvest continued. Apple producers were busy marketing early varieties of apples to local stores and selling to fresh market customers.

Central

Benton: Winter wheat seeding was about 35 percent finished. Moisture was adequate.

Douglas/Chelan: Pear and apple harvest continued for early varieties. This year's apple crop was smaller than last year. Only a couple of producers were still harvesting wheat. Most were finished seeding the 2008 winter wheat crop. No precipitation was received during the week. Temperatures were beginning to cool off. High winds occurred on Friday on the Waterville Plateau. Livestock producers were moving cattle onto fall pastures. There was some emergency grazing of CRP acreage in the northern portion of the counties due to pasture losses late last fall from fire.

Franklin: There was no precipitation during the week. Temperatures were cooling down in the evenings. Apple harvest was underway. Peach harvest was complete, and nectarine harvest continued. Winter wheat was being seeded in the dryland areas. The fourth cutting of alfalfa and sweet corn harvests were in full swing. Beans were being cut but not yet being combined.

Grant: The seeding of the 2008 dryland wheat was wrapping up. The third cutting of alfalfa was coming to an end. Potato and late varieties of sweet corn harvest continued. Dry edible bean cutting was underway. Silage corn harvest was getting ready to begin.

Kittitas: Quite a bit of second cutting timothy hay was baled and stacked. Much of the sweet corn harvest was complete. Cattle producers were weaning calves, and some were hauling water to range pastures. September has had good weather so far, but nights were beginning to cool off significantly with very light frost in some areas.

Okanogan: Apple and pear harvests were picking up. Rangeland was looking pretty dry. Some cattle may need to come off pastures early or wean calves early. The third cutting of hay was nearly complete. A few hay growers may get a fourth cutting this year. There has been no measurable precipitation for awhile.

Yakima: The days were warm and the nights were cool, but there were no reports of frost. Apple harvest continued with growers in the upper Yakima Valley harvesting Galas and growers in the lower Valley harvesting Golden Delicious, Fuji, and Honeycrisp apples. Multiple varieties of peaches, nectarines, plums, and prunes were being harvested. Niagara grape harvest was underway, and hop harvest began.

Yakima (2nd Report): Average temperatures varied from 10 degrees above normal to four degrees below normal, with 0.08 inches of precipitation. There were no new crop losses due to weather conditions.

Eastern

Adams: Another sunny week in the Central Basin saw dryland wheat emerging throughout the county.

Adams (2nd Report): Winter wheat seeding neared completion, with an estimated 30 percent already emerged. Soil moisture conditions continued to be worrisome to growers. They feel that above average precipitation during the winter months will be needed to obtain average yields.

Asotin/Garfield: Conditions remained dry and warmer than normal.

Ferry: Pastures were continuing to dry out, and cattle springs were drying up on the range.

Garfield: Growers were in a frenzy to seed a month before conventional seeding dates. There was some damage from army worms in alfalfa and other green crops.

Lincoln: Winter wheat seeding progressed throughout the county with some early seeded wheat emerging. Moisture and crop conditions could be improved with measurable precipitation this fall.

Lincoln (2nd Report): Winter wheat seeding began with about 35 percent complete. Moisture was adequate.

Pend Oreille: The temperature was 80 degrees for a high and 27 degrees for a low with no precipitation. Grass was beginning to grow but very slowly. The weather turned cool with freezing night temperatures. Livestock were putting on winter weight. Irrigation farmers were trying to irrigate fields in an attempt to get a third cutting of alfalfa. Livestock were still on hay fields and will remain there

until the end of October when the first snow hits. Soils were drier than normal.

Pend Oreille/Spokane: It was another week of typical early fall weather. No rain was received, but temperatures were becoming more normal. Evening temperatures were close to freezing in some areas. Nearly everyone completed harvest and was in the process of beginning fieldwork for the 2008 crops.

Stevens: A few producers continued working on the third cutting of hay. Cull cows and feeder calves continued being moved to market. Grain harvest was complete.

Walla Walla: Beautiful fall weather began. Grain seeding began, and pastures were dry.

Walla Walla (2nd Report): Evenings were becoming cooler. Nearly everyone was finished with harvest and enjoying the fall weather. Fall planting began in the northern portion of the county.

Whitman: The 2007 harvest for grains came to a close. With prices up, this is a year where producers wish harvest would have gone on much longer. Some operations continued to run the combines, as they finished up garbanzo bean acreage. Most operations shifted to fall tillage and preparations for seeding the 2008 winter wheat crop. Seeding began in the western areas of the county, but the majority of the county will not be seeding for at least another two weeks.

Weekly Weather Statistics

September 10, 2007

STATION	AIR TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS				LAST WEEK PRECIP			SEASON CUM PRECIP			
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	LO	HI	AVG	DFN	BASE-50F TOT DFN	BASE-60F TOT DFN	TOTAL INCHES	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL INCHES	DFN	PCT NORMAL	DAYS		
WEST															
Bellingham Intl	43	79	60	+2	73	+5	9	-4	0.07	-0.32	1	0.07	-0.42	14	1
Everett	50	75	62	+2	84	+11	15	+1	0.25	-0.20	2	0.25	-0.32	44	2
Hoquiam	49	87	65	+4	104	+27	34	+14	0.05	-0.55	2	0.05	-0.70	7	2
Kelso	46	84	65	+3	104	+17	34	+7	0.00	-0.49	0	0.00	-0.62	0	0
Olympia	43	80	63	+4	93	+21	25	+11	0.70	+0.25	2	0.70	+0.13	123	2
Seattle-Tacoma	53	77	65	+3	103	+14	33	+8	1.12	+0.73	1	1.12	+0.63	229	1
Shelton	39	82	62	+0	88	+1	19	-7	0.54	+0.03	1	0.54	-0.09	86	1
Tacoma WA AP	44	77	64	+3	97	+15	29	+9	0.49	+0.07	1	0.49	-0.04	92	1
Vancouver WA	48	87	68	+6	124	+38	54	+30	0.15	-0.27	1	0.15	-0.39	28	1
CENTRAL															
Ellensburg	38	89	67	+5	121	+35	52	+21	0.00	-0.14	0	0.00	-0.16	0	0
Omak AP	46	89	68	+8	130	+48	60	+31	0.00	-0.21	0	0.00	-0.27	0	0
Stampede Pass	43	68	54	+4	32	+2	0	-7	0.16	-0.52	1	0.16	-0.70	19	1
Wenatchee	49	87	70	+4	143	+22	73	+19	0.00	-0.14	0	0.00	-0.18	0	0
Yakima AP	39	89	67	+3	119	+21	50	+11	0.08	-0.06	1	0.08	-0.10	44	1
NORTHEAST															
Colville	40	91	67	+7	118	+43	48	+23	0.00	-0.28	0	0.00	-0.36	0	0
Deer Park	35	86	60	-3	75	-14	17	-16	0.00	-0.21	0	0.04	-0.23	15	1
Republic	32	84	62	+5	88	+27	26	+9	0.00	-0.23	0	0.05	-0.26	16	1
Spokane AP	46	85	65	+3	109	+19	39	+5	0.00	-0.21	0	0.00	-0.27	0	0
EAST CENTRAL															
Ephrata	54	87	71	+3	149	+21	79	+18	0.00	-0.07	0	0.00	-0.09	0	0
Moses Lake	46	87	69	+2	134	+6	64	+3	0.00	-0.07	0	0.00	-0.09	0	0
Quincy	50	84	69	+5	136	+28	66	+21	0.00	-0.14	0	0.00	-0.17	0	0
Ritzville	48	90	67	+5	123	+28	53	+17	0.04	-0.08	1	0.04	-0.10	29	1
SOUTHEAST															
Hanford	53	92	72	+2	158	+4	88	+6	0.16	+0.06	1	0.16	+0.02	114	1
Pasco	42	91	67	-1	123	-3	53	-7	0.01	-0.10	1	0.01	-0.14	7	1
Pullman	34	88	61	-1	75	-5	18	-10	0.00	-0.21	0	0.32	+0.05	119	1
Walla Walla Rgn	50	90	70	+2	142	+11	72	+9	0.00	-0.21	0	0.11	-0.16	41	1
Whitman Mission	36	91	66	+2	111	+8	46	+5	0.00	-0.14	0	0.10	-0.08	56	1

WESTERN IDAHO PANHANDLE

Lewiston ID 50 94 71 +4 149 +23 79 +18 0.00 -0.21 0 0.09 -0.18 33 1

Summary based on NWS data.

Season CUMulative Precip Starts: Saturday September 1, 2007

DFN = Departure From Normal.

Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more.

Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

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